

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

TEN PER CENT INCREASE IN BEET RATE

Fifty Cents Per Ton More Than Contract Price Announced Effective for Present Crop—Raise Unexpected

 "The rate increase on Rogue valley sugar beets, which was announced some weeks ago for the 1917 crop will be effective for the 1916 crop," Thomas R. Cutler, General Manager Utah-Idaho Sugar Company.

Ten per cent more than the contract rate is to be paid for the 1916 crop of sugar beets, according to the statement made late yesterday afternoon by General Manager Thomas R. Cutler of the Utah-Idaho company, who arrived in the city near noon. This raise for the crop beets now in the ground is the same that was announced last month for the 1917 crop and when figured up in dollars and cents means the turning of many more sugar dollars into local circulation than is necessary under the contract. The change in plans has been made in view of the recent rise in the price of sugar, the company deciding to allow the farmers who raise the beets to share in the resulting greater returns from the finished product.

The present schedule of prices is much more liberal than that under which the required acreage was signed up, amounting to \$5.50 per ton for beets now in the ground, where the former rate was five dollars. Where the beets, formerly had to test fifteen per cent sugar to come under the regular rate, the minimum has been reduced to twelve per cent, and for every additional one-half per cent over fifteen, ten cents per ton additional will be paid. At this rate beets testing 20 per cent would return the grower \$6.50.

A corresponding raise is the rate to be paid for 1916 beets will be effective in the Utah and Idaho fields. The Sutherland growers get \$5.25 for this year's crop, the former contract schedule having been \$4.75.

SPEAKER BACK IN GAME

Cleveland, Aug. 5.—Tris Speaker, who it was thought would be out of the game for several weeks, will be in the Indian line-up today. Speaker got nervous while watching his team mates play yesterday, and demanded today that he take his regular position in center field. His injured ankle is not causing him any trouble.

GERMAN POSITIONS TAKEN BY BRITISH

London, Aug. 5.—German second line positions on a front of more than 2,000 yards north of Pozieres were captured by the British in a resumption of the Somme offensive last night, General Haig reported to the war office today. Several hundred prisoners were taken.

The attack was delivered by the Australians and troops of the new army, and was "completely successful," Haig declared. Repeated German counter-attacks against the newly won positions were repulsed, the Germans suffering heavily.

No other important engagements occurred on the French front last night. The only other activity reported consisted of mining operations.

SISKIYOU FOREST TIMBER SOLD TO COOS BAY CO.

Forest Supervisor Macduff has received the contract between the Forest Service and the Coos Bay Lumber Company under which 27 million feet of timber on the Coquille River in the Siskiyou National Forest is sold to that company. The stumpage prices provided in the contract are \$2.00 for Port Orford Cedar or Lawson Cypress, \$1.25 for Douglas fir, \$1.00 for Western red cedar and 50c for western hemlock and grand fir. The estimate value of the timber is \$38,000.00. Cutting will begin August 7. Forest Examiner Haefner of the local office of the Forest Service has gone to Powers to take charge of the sale for the Forest Service. He will not only scale the logs as they are cut but will also see that the conditions of the log contract are complied with.

About half of the proceeds of the sale are turned back into community purposes and spent among the people who reside in or near the national forest in which the timber lies. Nine thousand, five hundred dollars from this sale will go to county school and road funds, while the construction of roads and trails inside the forest is helped by some three thousand eight hundred dollars. These forest highways are for the use of the general public, making the resources and recreation grounds of the mountains more accessible.

Part of the receipts are used to reimburse the government for funds advanced to National Forest counties for road building done under the Shackleford Bill. The remainder is turned into the general fund of the United States Treasury.

ROBINS, PROGRESSIVE, TO SUPPORT HUGHES

Chicago, Aug. 5.—In a statement issued here today, Raymond Robins, chairman of the last progressive convention, comes out flat-footedly in support of Hughes for president, and urged progressives to rejoin the G. O. P. and boost its candidate.

"We progressives stand at cross roads," Robins said. "American social, industrial and political life has broken down under the old individualistic control. A new national mind and conscience, developing social unity, industrial standardization, and political honesty from a self-controlled democracy—this is the goal of our American life. I believe in the character and courage of the nominee of the republican party. He is the most conspicuous example in our history that American politics may hold for success in able and unselfish public service. For myself, I gladly enlist with the great majority of the progressives of the nation under leadership of Hughes."

Robins said the 1914 elections had showed progressives regarded the progressive candidates of 1912 merely as the representatives of a protest, and that Roosevelt correctly interpreted this in refusing to run in 1916.

ST. LOUIS WANTS TO HEAD BASEBALL LEAGUE

St. Louis, Aug. 5.—President Ball of the Browns has offered \$5,000 to his players if they reach first place for one day. This is not a bonus for them to win the pennant.

If they remain in first place for three consecutive days, each player will be given a \$50 suit of clothes in addition to his share in the \$5,000.

AUSTRIAN DESTROYER IS SUNK

Rome, Aug. 5.—An Italian submarine sank an Austrian destroyer in the upper Adriatic this morning. It was announced by the war office tonight.

HINDENBURG TO DIRECT IN EAST

Great Austro-German Counter Offensive Said to Be Under Way Against the Russian Army at Kovel

London, Aug. 5.—The Germans are massing both troops and guns on the eastern front for a great counter-offensive under General von Hindenburg, designed to stem the Russian advance against Kovel and Lemberg. This news was received here from several neutral points today and was partly confirmed in dispatches from Berlin. For several days troop trains have been leaving Berlin daily, carrying reserves to the eastern front. Berlin believes the crisis of the war is approaching on the eastern front and for this reason great crowds are gathering daily to bid the departing troops farewell.

Field Marshal von Mackensen, who inaugurated the great German offensive against the Russians more than a year ago, has joined von Hindenburg on the eastern front. The Austrian crown prince, recently on the Italian front, has assumed charge of operations in Galicia.

Reports from Amsterdam today said the first blow probably would be struck in the southeast, where the Slavs have achieved their greatest gains. Hindenburg aiming to throw back the whole Slav line by driving in the left flank, and at the same time silencing the Roumanian leaders who have been urging King Ferdinand to join the allies. The battle, it is believed, will be gradually spread until the whole eastern front is involved in a gigantic struggle, comparable to that of early last summer.

It is too early to determine whether the strong German counter-attacks in the region east of Kovel form the beginning of the expected Austro-German offensive. The Russian war office statement admits the evacuation of Rudka Mirinskaja under heavy Austro-German attacks, but the fighting at this point continues.

DEMOCRATIC WHIP CHARGES LIVES LOST IN MEXICO TO REPUBLICANS

Washington, Aug. 5.—On the heads of the "generals" of the republican party lies the responsibility for lives lost in Mexico, Democratic Whip Lewis charged today in a senate speech.

Senator Lewis announced his speech as an answer to the Mexican issue raised by Charles E. Hughes in his acceptance address.

He declared that irresponsible Mexican bandits had been encouraged to commit acts of horror because republican leaders, in their anxiety to embarrass the president and create a campaign issue, had given the impression that the country was not united in support of its executive head.

"Here, this day, I put the responsibility for the death of every American soldier killed on the border of Mexico in 1916 upon the heads of the generals of the republican party," Lewis declared. "I charge that not until the captains of the republican party shot at the president of the United States did the Mexican outlaws shoot at the soldiers of the American president."

The Mexican issue, he asserted, had been picked up for purposes of expediency only, after prosperity had

FRENCH HOLD GAINS MADE AT VERDUN

Furious Attempts of Teuton Armies to Retake Lost Positions Are Repulsed—Joffre Still Holds Fleury

Paris, Aug. 5.—The Germans attacked furiously on the Verdun front throughout last night in violent attempts to recapture Thiaumont work and to drive the French from Fleury. The war office announced today that the German counter-assaults were checked with heavy losses.

The Germans launched a particularly heavy attack against Thiaumont work at 9 o'clock last night after a violent bombardment along the Thiaumont-Fleury front. The fighting continued until early this morning.

"Every enemy attack was repulsed," said one dispatch. "The Germans did not gain a yard, though they suffered heavy losses. In Fleury village the situation remains unchanged, despite heavy fighting."

On the Somme front only minor engagements, in which several German patrols were dispersed, occurred last night. East of Pont-a-Mousson, southeast of Verdun, a German attack in Sauc forest was checked by French machine gun fire.

In 17 air fights yesterday two Germans dropped to their own lines, damaged, and two others were brought down in the region of Verdun.

The Germans again attacked on the whole Fleury-Thiaumont front, repeating their tactics of the previous night, when they moved forward in dense columns against the newly won French positions.

Desperate bayonet fighting again occurred in the streets of Fleury, the war office stated. The Germans charged repeatedly, but were checked by the French, who defended themselves with bayonets, rifle and

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STATE SCRIBES SPEND TODAY AT CRATER LAKE

Oregon editors closed the opening session of the State Editorial Association meeting at Medford with unanimous approval of plans for the organization of a Tri-State Association to include Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. The present convention marks the highest point yet reached by the state organization, both in number attending and the warmth of interest shown. The movement toward a three-state association is taken to promise a better journalism and better mutual understanding between the communities of the great northwest. Saturday sessions were especially full, with all phases of the newspaper game as it is played in Oregon threshed out by men particularly fitted for the subject assigned. Several Washington and Idaho journalists were present, taking part in discussion and working for the larger association.

The editors with their families are today enjoying a trip to Crater Lake as an expression of the hospitality of Medford. All public clubs in that city are doing their utmost to accord the visiting journalists the best time they have ever enjoyed in convention, and reports from the meetings indicate that success has resulted.

The Medford Sun report of the meeting follows in part:

"How to make a country daily pay" was the subject discussed by A. E. Voorhies of the Grants Pass Courier. After pointing out that in the newspaper business dollars and cents are incidental, the enjoyment of work and happy contentment contribute largely to what a newspaper man considers his "pay," he mentioned certain matters which he considered important in maintaining a profitable newspaper. These matters included the strict maintenance of rates, elimination of free readers, elimination of white paper waste, in keeping up delinquent subscribers, faith in oneself, one's community and one's paper, diligence and "knowing how."

BRITISH LOSE IN ATTEMPT TO ADVANCE

Berlin, Aug. 5.—British troops lost heavily in an unsuccessful attempt to advance in the sector north of Orvillers and in Fourax forest, the war office announced this afternoon.

Near Pozieres a new battle has developed, the British launching fresh attacks. South of Maurepas, in the region north of the Somme, a French advance was repulsed.

On the Verdun front bitter fighting is going on in the region of Thiaumont work.

continued, "the republican masters encouraged every outlaw and cut-throat to feel privileged to assail whatever represented Wilson or his policy. These knew they would have the support of a great party in America which for years had been successful in electing presidents."

"Thus it was that just a month after Senator Root had struck his keynote of opposition to a democratic president the murderers dashed into Columbus, N. M."

"The bandits of Villa found their allies in the leaders of the republican party. All were for the destruction of an American policy and American president."

"By the doctrine of the law which holds responsible those who set in motion the machinery which ends in the murder of a man, the republican platform builders who denounced their president were the perpetrators of the death of those Americans. When they shot at the president of the United States they summoned also the outlaws of Villa and Carranza to kill his soldiers."

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP POSSIBLE

Strike Troubles on American Railroads May Force Federal Action for Relief of Public, Says Senator Norris

Washington, Aug. 5.—The strongest argument ever presented for government ownership of railroads is the threatened paralysis of traffic due to an employers-employees controversy, Senator Norris of Nebraska declared today.

Should the impending disaster fail, he announced, he will seize the opportunity to advance the doctrine that private ownership of a public utility necessarily is opposed to the public interest.

Norris will introduce a bill calling for the construction or purchase of a nation-wide system, a line from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the gulf to the lakes. This he will propose to operate as a model utility, both as to treatment of the public in rates and to employees in pay.

"Watered stock is the great evil of railroads," said Norris. "Many of them must earn interest and dividends of from two to five times their actual value. Nothing, therefore, is more unfair and unintelligent than to 'cuss' railroad managers. Simply hired men, they must operate with such economy toward their employees, and with such a make-it-pay-regardless attitude toward the public, that the surprise is that the blow-up has not come sooner."

"This strike is as inevitable as summer or winter. Possibly the situation may be patched up. But so long as the railroad managers must devote their energies toward earning dividends and interest on values that do not exist, there is hanging over the traffic of this country—over its business life, its food supply, its milk trains that carry food for its babies—a Damoclean sword."

"Government ownership would succeed because there would be no watered stock. Admit that operation might not be so economical—and that term may mean, remember, grinding the men and gouging the public—nevertheless, with the tremendous watering of stock eliminated, operation would pay."

"One class of stock I would reserve for employees exclusively, for them to invest in when they choose."

"I believe these two lines—one east and west from ocean to ocean, the other north and south from the lakes to the gulf—would have so great an influence in moulding rates and treatment of employees that further extension of government ownership might not be necessary or, if it was, its advantages would be so apparent as to rout opposition."

"Far more important, it would be in the public interest. A manager would not ask 'how high a rate can I get for this commodity? How cheap can I hire this man?' And all rates would be uniform and fair, and without rebates of any kind."

"If lines could not be purchased for a fair price, I would build other lines."

TELEGRAPH OPERATORS IN CANADA MAY STRIKE

Winnipeg, Aug. 5.—Strikebreakers reported imported by the Great Northwestern Commercial Telegraph company will be deported as undesirable aliens, if a committee of employees that interviewed Attorney General Hudson today is successful. The men say a strike is inevitable. The majority of the strikers plan moving to the United States to relieve an operators' shortage in the states.